112. Need for relieving the people from the responsibilities now imposed on them in the matter of establishing higher classes in English Schools.

Mr. V. K. Govinda Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) submitted that the recently inaugurated policy whereby the people were required to put up the necessary school buildings, supply the requisite equipments and further deposit Rs. 10,000 before they could have an English High school was causing hardship on the people of Neyyattinkara. He contended that Government spent only Rs. 33,300 on the Departmental English schools or 1½ per cent. of the total expenditure on education. The people of the taluk were poor and their material condition was declining every year on account of various causes. The only way to attain a higher level of economic efficiency was to give their children English education. The people found it impossible to send their children abroad after they had finished their Third Form course with the result that English educated youths were on the decline. The financial results of the working of Form IV for one year were satisfactory and the Member assured Government that the opening of higher forms would not cause Government any loss. If it was argued that Government required funds for carrying on Elementary and Industrial education and that, therefore, a portion of the cost of higher education should be borne by the people, that was untenable for the reason that the people paid their decent share towards Elementary education also. In conclusion, the Member requested that Government might be pleased to grant their request for higher forms being opened without putting the people to unnecessary pecuniary trouble and hardship.

Dewan's reply.—The conditions under which the higher form was granted were proposed and decided at the instance of a deputation of the people of Neyyattinkara, of which the Member himself was one. Similar conditions have been laid down in the case of the Kottarakara school. Even though a deposit has been insisted on, it is understood that the people had not to pay anything in the first year.

113. Desirability of introducing Sanskrit as an optional subject in Malayalam schools from Class V upwards and of opening Sanskrit Patasalas in all the taluks of the State.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panikkar (Member, Nominated) conveyed the thanks of the people to Government for throwing open the Sanskrit College to all classes and for sanctioning a grant-in-aid to the Sanskrit College at Alwaye and requested that to encourage the study of Sanskrit one Sanskrit Patasala should be established in each taluk as an experimental measure. The present system of teaching English as an optional subject in Vernacular schools was to be commended, as a study of that language would make them up-to-date and enlightened. But Sanskrit has attraction for boys and girls and a study of it should be freely promoted both among boys and girls because of the facilities it offers for attaining proficiency in their own mother tongue. It would be enough if Sanskrit were made a subject of compulsory study from class V. He also submitted that, in view of the interest evinced by the people in the study of Sanskrit, the Sanskrit College should be so re-modelled as to make it modern in every respect. In conclusion, he prayed that a grant-in-aid might be paid to the Sanskrit Patasala at Koipalli Karazhma at Mavelikara and also to the Sanskrit school at Kayankulam.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

114. Disabilities of Pulayas in the matter of education.

Mr. Aiyan Kali (Member, Nominated) first submitted that the members of his community were ever grateful to His Highness' Government for the help rendered in giving education to their children and for elevating them in other ways. The Member then submitted the following requests for the favourable consideration of Government :—

1. That Pulaya children be wholly exempted from the payment of fees.
2. That agriculture and handicrafts be taught to Pulaya pupils
3. That Pulaya children in schools be fed at State cost.

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4. That a separate allotment be ear-marked in the annual budgets for the education of Pulaya children and special attention paid to see that the whole of such allotment was spent for the purpose during the year.

5. That special institutions be started solely for the teaching of handicrafts to the Pulaya children and provision made for free quarters for them.

6. That all State schools be thrown open to them.

7. That scholarships be awarded to a large number of Pulaya pupils every year.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

115. Exemption from payment of fees in the case of pupils belonging to the Kaniyar community.

Mr. N. Padmanabhan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) thanked His Highness' Government for the half-fee concession granted last year to children of the Kaniyar community, but submitted that, in view of the poverty of the community, their backwardness in English education and the present high cost of education, they might be exempted from payment of fees altogether.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. At present, the privilege of full remission of fees has not been allowed to any community.

116. Need for the speedy completion of the Higher Grade English school for Boys at Kottar and the opening of a Lower Grade English school for Girls at Nagercoil.

Mr. D. Francis (Member, Nominated) said that the English High school at Kottar was situated amidst insanitary and unhealthy surroundings and that, on that account, the pupils were subject to different ailments. Another defect was the want of a well with wholesome and potable water. There were more than 100 boys who were using the brackish water, besides the teachers, when taking tiffin in the school. The site of the new building was a convenient one and was healthy from every point of view. He, therefore, prayed for the speedy completion of the new building. Another want of Nagercoil was a Government Girls' school for studying English. There was a Mission School, but people were unwilling to send their girls to that institution. There was ample scope for two English Girls' schools, just as there were two English schools for boys.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

117. Desirability of raising the standard of the English school at Eraniel to the Sixth Form.

Mr. P. Krishna Pillai (Member, Eraniel taluk) represented that his request had been pressed at successive sessions of the Assembly from the 10th and that memorials too had been submitted to Government. Subsequent representations of a similar nature from other taluks had been favourably disposed of. Eraniel was in no way inferior to other taluks in point of revenue, population and other standards of importance. On the other hand the taluk had gained considerable importance on account of its monozite and other mineral resources, its trade in raw materials such as palmyra fibre, jaggery, etc. The institution was started 52 years ago as a Lower Grade English school. Though all facilities were available for higher forms being opened, the people's long-standing request remained unanswered. All the surrounding localities were crowded with habitations and there were enough students for higher forms, should they be opened.

Dewan.—If the people of Eraniel would agree to abide by the conditions fulfilled by other taluks similarly circumstanced, such as Kottarakara and Neyyattinkara, there would be no objection to raise the standard of the school by opening Form IV with the beginning of the next school year.

The Member requested to be furnished with a statement of the conditions to enable him to consult the people of the taluk and give a definite answer.

Dewan's reply.—The Member will be given a memo setting forth the conditions at once.

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